

NSC BRIEFING

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29 July 1954

IRAQ PROSPECTS

I. New Iraqi government likely soon in place
Umari caretaker cabinet.

A. This due recent accord between Iraq's
two strongest leaders:

1. Ex-premier Nuri Said--will help form
government, although his party only
won plurality in 9 June elections.

2. Crown Prince Abdul Ilah--king's chief
adviser: went to Europe to persuade
Nuri.

B. Nuri or man his choosing will head
coalition government: five, six of
Nuri's party; three, four independents
will compose cabinet.

C. Because Nuri bitterly opposed, no post
for present Foreign Minister Jamali
(who negotiated US arms aid agreement).
May get US ambassadorship.

D. Cabinet to take office on Nuri's return
after 29 July.

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II. Prospective coalition will be conservative pro-Western. Will give strength, stability to government.

A. However, social and economic reforms (pushed by Jamali when he prime minister) falling by wayside.

B. Coalition probably receptive to Turk-Pakistani pact approaches.

1. However, Nuri will be hard bargainer, will also be sensitive to popular mood.

2. Although Iraqi extremists and Communists will bitterly oppose pact, government expected able control situation.

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